

# THE MINT MASTER

UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

## THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

### Hello Everyone!

I want to start by thanking Chris Larson for an incredible presentation on UNS club metals. His complete set was impressive to behold and we learned quite a bit of the history of the metals. It was surprising to learn that some metals were casted and not struck in there production like most coins and metals. I had the opportunity to go to Sacramento for the National Money Show. There was much to see and do. The Museum Showcase featured world-class treasures such as a 1913 Liberty Head Nickel, one of only five known. America's first gold coin, the 1787 Brasher doubloon was on display. Also a recently discovered 9 pound gold nugget was shown. Beside these great treasures there were collector exhibits, the US Mint selling their goods, coin supply companies, Heritage Auctions, coin grading services, etc. I spent half a day going through all of this before getting to the "Bourse" floor. Over 220 dealers to spend my money with, I was in heaven. I spent way to much but had a great time. As you know, there was much concern about a provision in the Obamacare bill that would require all businesses to file 1099's when buying more than \$600 of goods from anyone in a calendar year. Republicans and pro-business democrats were against this provision last year. They went to work and got this provision eliminated. Rare Coin Dealers and other businesses will not be required to fill 1099's forms on their customers when customers sell them coins or precious metals. It's a real victory for privacy, a real victory for business, and a victory against Federal government intrusion. Mary Farnsworth has asked to be replaced as club librarian for health reasons. We are looking for someone to replace her. If you would like the opportunity to serve the club, let me or Bruce Griggs know. Thanks.

Tom Davis

### VOLUME 57, ISSUE 4

Meeting April 12th  
7:00 PM

—Location—

Columbus Comm. Ctr.  
2531 S. 400 E.  
Salt Lake City

### APRIL 2011

Greetings - Tom Davis

Mini Exhibit - Larry Nielsen  
News & Views - Don Swain  
Coin Quiz - David Larson  
Spotlight - Larry Nielsen

## APRIL'S PROGRAM

This months meeting is the twice annual "Bourse". Club members may bring what ever they would like to sell to other club members. Clean out your closets; be creative, be bold, let's have some fabulous items to sell.

April 17-23 is National Coin Week with the theme of "Blue, Grey and Greenbacks". To celebrate it please bring items about the Civil War to exhibit. Invite someone new to come with you to enjoy the fun. See your there. April 12<sup>th</sup>.



# CLUB SCHEDULE FOR 2011

APRIL  
BOURSE  
ANA COIN WEEK  
CIVIL WAR DISPLAYS  
MAY  
UNS BIRTHDAY  
PAST PRESIDENT  
SPEAKER  
JUNE  
YOUTH PROGRAM  
JULY  
PICNIC  
AUGUST  
LEGAL ISSUES  
SEPTEMBER  
WINNING DISPLAYS  
BY DAVID LARSON  
OCTOBER  
AUCTION  
NOVEMBER  
BOURSE  
ELECTIONS  
DECEMBER  
CHRISTMAS  
DINNER  
JANUARY 2012  
UNS AUCTION  
SWEARING IN  
OFFICERS

## FEATURE ARTICLE

### Counterfeit Coins

Are you aware that collecting counterfeit coins is actually a segment of numismatics? Many people believe that possessing a counterfeit coin or for that matter a piece of bogus paper money is illegal. Well it is, sort of. Technically the Secret Service can, and sometimes does, confiscate any and all counterfeit currency and there are stiff penalties for anyone who has one in their possession, or heaven forbid, attempts to pass it in the channels of commerce. But then what of those counterfeits which people collect? There have been counterfeits created to pass in the United States long before the U.S. was even a thought. For example, take the continental currency paper notes. Counterfeits of them abound and are highly collected. Many examples have a leaf showing the veins in it printed in order to make counterfeiting very difficult. Then came the Confederacy and their poor quality notes which were profusely counterfeited. These too are highly collected today with books written on this subject. If you have read the book review in this Mint Master it discusses counterfeit Bust Half dollars. They were the most highly counterfeited coin of any U.S. series and hundreds of examples exist. There are basically three types of counterfeits:

- 1) Contemporary or coins made to circulate as specie alongside real coins.
- 2) Numismatic Fakes - These have been created to deceive collectors and are basically copies of rare coins.
- 3) Collector fakes/copies - Similar in nature to Numismatic Fakes but usually identified as such. (copies of many colonials exist for this type.)

To further discuss the most common counterfeits, Bust Half dollars, virtually all were created in order to pass as money in commerce. During this time period, primarily from 1820-1840 which most are dated, many coins from many countries circulated in the U.S. Coins were scarce and most in circulation were worn extensively. So you can see, by placing a crude looking artificially worn coin into circulation with literally dozens of similar coins from many countries was relatively easy. Most were cast but as counterfeiters became better in the 1830's engraved and die struck examples which are quite good became the norm. Obviously they were not made of silver because a half dollar contained 50c worth of silver at the time so there would be no benefit to the counterfeiter. They consisted of copper or brass usually plated in white metal or silvered. This wore off quickly but long after the culprit initially passed the coin. White metal plating (or sometimes the entire coin) consisted of 55% copper, 30% zinc, and 15% nickel.

All of the above mentioned counterfeits are technically illegal to own but you have very little chance of the Secret Service knocking on your door. Actually there is a clause in the law that allows legal possession in the name of educational purposes. Just be aware that possession of any counterfeit bill or coin which copies a current circulating example will get you in trouble, especially if you attempt to pass it. And say for instance you find a counterfeit \$20 bill in your wallet. Don't try to pass it to get rid of it but be advised, if you turn it in to your local bank they will accept it but will not reimburse you a new \$20, your out of luck.

**Doug Nyholm**

## COIN OF THE MONTH

### *1849 DOUBLE EAGLE*



One of the most fabled coins of all time. The first year of the \$20 double eagle coin, a coin that was not really needed for commerce but was created to absorb the vast quantities of gold emanating from California. Only two coins were minted and the whereabouts of only one can be traced today. The coin pictured above is housed at the Smithsonian Institution; the other was presented to Treasury Secretary William M. Meredith in 1849. It was later sold as part of his estate and remains untraced. It is listed as Judd-117 and is considered to be a pattern. Although past records indicate that two specimens were struck, current documentation virtually always refers to the coin as being unique. If the second specimen ever comes to light it would surely sell for millions of dollars. This coin is considered by many numismatists to be the most valuable coin in the world. Recently PCGS listed it on its list of most valuable coins in the world as number 1 with an estimated value of \$20,000,000.00 if it were to go to auction.

## IDENTIFY THIS COIN

COULD YOU  
IDENTIFY LAST  
MONTH'S COIN?  
IT WAS AN 1796  
QUARTER EAGLE.  
OBVIOUS DUE TO  
THE LACK OF  
STARS.

=====

FOR THIS MONTH  
THE COIN TO  
IDENTIFY IS  
SHOWN BELOW.

WHAT IS IT?  
WHAT WAS IT  
USED FOR?  
WHEN WAS IT  
MADE?  
?????  
ANYTHING ELSE?



## COIN QUIZ & TRIVIA

1. At one time or another in the past 100 years the Treasury Department has stated that ownership of three of the following coins or coin series is illegal. Can you find the legal one for which no edict was ever given??  
A. 1933 \$20 Gold                      B. All Pattern Coins  
C. Confederate Currency            D. 1883 'No Cents' Nickel
2. How many stars are on the reverse of the 2000 Sacagawea dollar?  
A. 7    B. 13  
C. 17                                        D. 50
3. Which one of the following mottoes is found on the 1879 Flowing Hair \$4 Stella?  
A. Deo Est Gloria                      B. In God We Trust  
C. As Per Ad Astra                   D. God And Country
4. Which two of the following were omitted from the 1892-1916 Barber dime?  
A. United States of America    B. Liberty  
C. In God We Trust                  D. E Pluribus Unum
5. The Sacagawea dollar was the first legal tender coin to picture a baby. If you like trivia, you know of course that this is not true at all. Years ago a baby was prominently shown on a:  
A. 1893 Isabella Quarter            B. 1786 Vermont Copper (Ryder9)  
C. 1937 Roanike Half Dollar      D. 1876 Pattern Trade Dollar

**Answers to last month's questions. 1) A, B & D 2) Poly Vinyl Chloride 3) Deep Mirror Proof-Like 4) Large Cents 1793-1814 5) Bust Halves**

## HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT NICKELS?



1. What was the first year that the Jefferson Nickel was minted?
2. Describe all the locations that the mintmark was placed?
3. Who designed the Jefferson Nickel, where are his initials on the coin, and what year did they first appear?
4. What does 5-Steps or 6-Steps mean.
5. What different metals were used to make Jefferson Nickels?
6. Do you know of any different varieties of the Jefferson Nickel?
7. What mints have made Jefferson Nickels?
8. What year and date is the most famous Jefferson Nickel?
9. What year was the first proof Jefferson Nickel made?
10. What year was the mintmark moved from the reverse to the obverse?

# COUNTERFEIT CORNER

## 1935 OLD SPANISH TRAIL COMMEMORATIVE

Die Struck—2 different sets of counterfeit dies known.



**Pick Up Point**  
**Repeating  
Depression  
Lettering not  
crisp**

**Frequency Encountered**  
**Common**

**Identification Difficulty**  
**Difficult**

**Value**  
**Moderate**

GENUINE

This has been reported by ANACS as the most commonly seen counterfeit commemorative coin. They are difficult to identify and at least two known die pairs are known to have created this fake. Look for a small repeating depression to the upper left of the A in ALVAR. Additionally, the counterfeits will not have that sharp look of the real coins.



**ANA 'NATIONAL  
COIN WEEK' IS  
APRIL 17-23.**

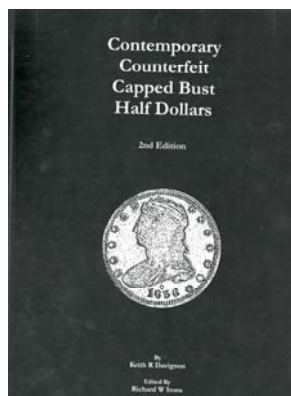
**THE THEME IS  
'BLUE, GREY, &  
GREENBACKS'**

**CIVIL WAR  
YEARS OF  
1861-1865**

**ONE OF OUR UNS  
THEMES FOR  
APRIL WILL BE  
'CIVIL WAR  
DISPLAYS.'**

**PLAN YOUR  
DISPLAY NOW. I  
THINK OUR  
MEMBERS CAN  
PUT TOGETHER  
SOME  
OUTSTANDING  
DISPLAYS AND  
ALSO RECEIVE  
CREDIT FOR A  
TICKET AT  
DECEMBERS  
DINNER.**

## BOOK REVIEW



Author—Keith R. Davignon

Price—\$50-\$60

Availability—Internet and at  
coin shows.

This is the second book on this fascinating subject. Imagine, books devoted to the subject of counterfeits of a particular series of U.S. coins! This is a quality book consisting of 326 pages hardcover bound. It is the second volume of this subject and thus has been greatly expanded with virtually all known counterfeit Capped Bust Halves documented. The first 108 pages are devoted to the history of these contemporary counterfeits, their origin, and stories of many counterfeiters. Details of how they were made and passed as money make very interesting reading. The rest of the book is devoted to a year by year pictorial of literally hundreds of counterfeits, descriptions, similar to the detail Overton took in his identification of real bust halves, and rarity of these fakes. Capped Bust halves are widely collected and have been called the most counterfeited series of U.S. coinage. It is a very enjoyable book and as you can see on the cover, a counterfeit 1836-O half exists, two years before the first half was even coined in New Orleans.

Doug Nyholm

## YOUNG NUMISMATIST'S CORNER

### THE ART OF GRADING ITEMS IN YOUR COLLECTION

NO ASPECT OF THE COLLECTING PROCESS RECEIVES MORE ATTENTION OR IS THE SUBJECT OF MORE DISCUSSION AND REFINEMENT THAN THE AREA OF GRADING. DESCRIBING THE CONDITION OF WHAT WE ARE COLLECTING IN TERMS THAT ARE UNIVERSALLY UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED IS THE GOAL OF THE GRADING PROCESS AND IS A CAPABILITY THAT EVERY COLLECTOR MUST LEARN AND BECOME COMFORTABLE DOING. THE FIRST STEP IN LEARNING HOW TO GRADE IS TO BECOME CONVERSANT IN THE TERMINOLOGY USED TO DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE COLLECTING. NEXT YOU WILL WANT TO HAVE EASY ACCESS TO PUBLISHED REFERENCE MATERIAL, PREFERABLY WITH HIGH QUALITY ILLUSTRATIONS, PICTURES AND/OR PHOTOS. THIS IS DEFINITELY ONE AREA WHERE A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS. IN THE AREA OF U.S. COINS FOR EXAMPLE, PUBLICATIONS FREQUENTLY USED INCLUDE: PHOTOGRADE, THE OFFICIAL RED BOOK, AND MAKING THE GRADE. ONCE YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THE TERMINOLOGY AND CHARACTERISTICS USED IN ASSIGNING A GRADE, YOU WILL NEED TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH ANY UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ITEMS YOU WILL COLLECT. ALL COINS, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL OR IDENTICAL AND FREQUENTLY EXHIBIT DIFFERENT STRIKE, DETAIL AND LUSTER QUALITY BY YEAR AND MINT OF ORIGIN WHICH CAN AFFECT THE GRADING PROCESS. ARMED WITH ALL THIS INFORMATION, IT'S TIME FOR THE REAL WORK TO BEGIN AND IT'S CALLED PRACTICE, PRACTICE AND MORE PRACTICE WITH A GOAL OF GAINING EXPERIENCE-BASED PROFICIENCY AND CONSISTENCY. NEXT MONTH WILL LOOK AT THE MECHANICS OF ACTUALLY GRADING COINS.

**PHIL CLARK**

## PRIZES OF THE MONTH

**Promptness:**  
**1961 Proof Franklin Half**

**Membership:**  
**1921-S Morgan Dollar**

**Junior:**  
**1976 US Proof Set**

**1976 G. Washington  
Bicentennial Gold**

1885 MS60 Morgan Dollar  
1992-P Columbus Silver Dollar  
2000-S NGC Kennedy Silver  
Half PF69UC  
1864 Two Cent Piece  
LP4 Lincoln Cent Rolls Mint  
Box  
1961 PF65 Wash. Quarter  
1910 Barber Dime  
1937-D AU Buffalo Nickel  
\$2 Uncut Currency Sheet  
1994 PF World Cup Half  
1969 New Zealand Mint Set  
Bank of Zambia 500 Kawacha  
Foreign Note

**NO BUY OF THE MONTH  
FOR APRIL DUE TO  
'BOURSE NIGHT'**

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### Monarch Coin Corporation

Rare Coins and Precious Metals since 1959  
211 East 3900 South, Salt Lake City  
801-262-5874  
(Ext. 8 For Precious Metal Quotes, Ext. 9 For Personal Svc.)  
Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 to 5:00 & Saturday 10:00 to 2:00  
Staci Larsen, Bob Ottley, Sarah Rich, and Jesse VanDeMere

### Muller/Robertson Coins & Currency

We are looking to buy collections or individual  
pieces of world/US coins and currency  
Call us at 801-581-0991

### Eureka Coin Company

Contact George Wilson at:  
Call 801-928-1192 or email at [Eurekacoins@gmail.com](mailto:Eurekacoins@gmail.com)

### ALL ABOUT COINS

1123 E. 2100 S.  
Salt Lake City, UT 801-467-8636

Tue. -Fri. 10 to 6 / Sat. 10 to 5 / Closed Monday's  
Contact Bob Campbell at 801-467-8636  
UNS Member since 1973

### Rust Coin & Gifts

1774 N. University Parkway; Provo, UT 84604  
801-377-1574 or 888-864-1574  
Bryan Rust or Sherilee Kazamini  
[Rusycinz1@hotmail.com](mailto:Rusycinz1@hotmail.com)

If you are looking to sell you collection please give us a call! We also trade and sell coins. We love to help our customers with coins they need, so if you have a want list we would be happy to help you out. We've been in the coin business for 45 years.

## UNS Officers & Board Members

### 2011 Officers & Board

Tom Davis — President

Bruce Griggs — Vice Pres

Robie Cagle — Sec.

Eldon Farnsworth — Treas.

Don Swain — Medals

David Larsen — Curator

Mary Farnsworth — Lib.

Doug Nyholm — Newslet.

Bob Campbell — Bourse

### 2011 BOARD

Bob Whitehead

Ron Swain

Chris Larsen

Tom Jensen

Tom Sharpton

Lamar Burton

Larry Kimura

Phil Clark



## ADVERTISEMENTS

### PL Treasures

LaVon Ottley 801-597-6488 / Bob Ottley 801-943-3913  
Fine Jewelry, 14kt gold, diamonds & colored stones,  
sterling silver. Custom made settings, repairs and  
remounts. Also, rare coins, tokens, medals and bullion  
products available. We buy and sell US and World coins.

### J & J Collectibles

Phone: Home (801)957-9915 / Cell (801)674-4962

Email: [jvrazel15@msn.com](mailto:jvrazel15@msn.com)

Specializing in UNS, Ogden & Nuts Club Medals, Rounds & assorted  
misc. coins and collectables. Items are for sale at shows and in  
between. Call and see if we have what you need. I am also available  
for questions via my Email.



### Rust Coin Company Inc.

[www.rustcoin.com](http://www.rustcoin.com)

Contact Josh Rust for all your numismatic needs.

### Barton Rare Coins

4698 South Holladay Boulevard  
Holladay, UT 84117 / 801-278-8500

[Abrcoins@yahoo.com](mailto:Abrcoins@yahoo.com)

Hours: Tue-Fri 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed  
Sunday & Monday

We buy Sell or Trade Gold, Silver and Platinum. Check us out, you  
will be pleased you did.



# UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

\*\*\*\*\*

P.O. BOX 65054  
SALT LAKE CITY  
UTAH 84165

\*\*\*\*\*

MINTMASTER EDITOR

E-MAIL

DOUGLAS.NYHOLM@  
COMCAST.NET

\*\*\*\*\*

YOUR INPUT,  
SUGGESTIONS, AND  
WRITTEN ARTICLES  
ARE ALWAYS  
APPRECIATED.



## Jefferson Nickel Answers

1. 1938
2. Above the Dome, to the right of the building, below the date.
3. Felix Schlag, Truncation of the bust, 1966
4. How many steps can be counted on Monticello
5. Nickel, Copper, Nickel, Manganese.
6. Over-dates, over mintmarks, double dies etc.
7. Phila., Denver, S.F.
8. 1950-D
9. 1938
10. 1968

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER?

☐ EMAIL / PREFERRED ☐ POSTAL MAIL

SPONOR: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEN & WHERE WE MEET

SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 PM

COLUMBUS COMMUNITY CENTER

2531 SOUTH 400 EAST / SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84115

ANNUAL DUES:

☐ FAMILY \$25 ☐ ADULT (18 AND OLDER) \$15 ☐ JUNIOR \$5

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / NEWS



39th Annual



### NORTHERN UTAH COIN SHOW April 22, 23, & 24



2011

Admission \$3.00 - Family \$5.00  
Free to Coin Club Members with card

Marriot Hotel - 247 24th Street - Ogden, Utah

Hours Friday, Saturday - 10 A.M. to 7 P.M.  
Sunday 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Buy, Sell, & Trade

Sponsored by Ogden Coin Club



### Blue, Gray & Greenbacks: Money of the Civil War

2011 National Coin Week - April 17 - 23



### "BLUE, GRAY AND GREENBACKS"

THIS IS THE THEME OF 2011  
NATIONAL COIN WEEK, APRIL 17-23.  
THE WEEKLONG CELEBRATION OF  
COINS AND CURRENCY WILL  
COMMEMORATE THE  
SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE CIVIL  
WAR AND THE NUMISMATIC  
CHANGES DURING THE CONFLICT,  
WHICH BEGAN AT FT. SUMTER, S.C.  
ON APRIL 12, 1861.

## **Sacramento ANA attendees**

**Several UNS  
members and  
Utah dealers  
were in at-  
tendance in  
Sacramento.  
Thanks to Tom  
Davis for these  
pictures.**



**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE  
BUT NOT PICTURED -  
TOM DAVIS  
ANDREW BARTON  
DOUG NYHOLM**

## ***THE BACK PAGE***

Some interesting and informative web sites.

<http://www.pcgs.com/>

<http://www.coinweek.com/>

<http://uspatterns.com/>

<http://www.coinresource.com/>

<http://www.stellacoinnews.com/>

<http://www.pcgscoinfacts.com/>

<http://www.coinsite.com/>

<http://www.ha.com/c/index.zx>

<http://bowersandmerena.com/>

<http://www.stacks.com/default.aspx>

<http://www.goldbergcoins.com/>

<http://new.lynnknight.com/LK/>

[http://history.utah.gov/research\\_and\\_collections/photos/index.html](http://history.utah.gov/research_and_collections/photos/index.html)

<http://www.anacs.com/Default.aspx>

<http://www.ngccoin.com/index.aspx>

<http://www.whitmanbooks.com/Default.aspx?Page=61>

<http://www.kitco.com/>

<http://www.liberty.coininfo.com/>